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PRIORITY

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OCTOBER 1976

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COUNTRY VENEZUELA/ CUBA

DOI 30 SEPTEMBER -7 OCTOBER 1976

ADM. MARKINGS
ALL FBI INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED AND CLASSIFIED
DATE 7-21-94 BY SP8 MAC/KSL
(JFIL)

SUBJECT REACTION OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS TO RECENT

TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST CUBAN AIRCRAFT AND
INSTALLATIONS.

ACQ VENEZUELA, CARACAS (8 OCTOBER 1976) FIELD NO. [HVC] 7509

SOURCE SEE BELOW.

1. SOURCE OF PARAGRAPHS 2 AND 3: A VENEZUELAN BUSINESSMAN
WITH CLOSE CONTACTS IN BUSINESS, GOVERNMENT, POLITICAL AND
DIPLOMATIC CIRCLES. HIS RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

2. ON 7 OCTOBER 1976 PEDRO GOMEZ FERNANDEZ, SECOND
SECRETARY AT THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS, VENEZUELA, SAID THAT
THE CUBAN EMBASSY WAS AWARE THAT A BOMB WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE
CRASH OF THE CUBANA AIRLINE FLIGHT OFF THE COAST OF BARBADOS
ON 6 OCTOBER. THE CUBANS, GOMEZ SAID, DID NOT KNOW ON WHICH
LEG OF THE FLIGHT THE BOMB WAS PLACED HOWEVER.

(FIELD COMMENT: THE PLANE WAS DOWNED WITH THE LOSS OF 78 LIVES)

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INCLUDING FENCING TEAM WHICH HAD RECENTLY COMPLETED COMPETITION IN VENEZUELA.)

3. GOMEZ SAID THAT ON 30 SEPTEMBER THE CUBAN EMBASSY HAD INFORMED THE DIRECTORATE FOR THE SERVICES OF INTELLIGENCE AND PREVENTION (DISIP), THE VENEZUELAN CIVILIAN SECURITY SERVICE, THAT A CUBAN EXILE NAMED SALVADOR ROMANI WAS OBSERVING THE CUBAN FENCING TEAM AT ITS CARACAS HOTEL. ROMANI, GOMEZ SAID, IS A UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE AGENT. (SOURCE COMMENT:

GOMEZ IMPLIED THAT THE CUBAN EMBASSY IS LOOKING INTO THE POSSIBILITY THAT ROMANI'S ACTIVITIES ARE INVOLVED WITH THE PLANE CRASH.) FURTHERMORE, THE CUBANS TOLD DISIP THAT THE TEAM WOULD DEFEND ITSELF SHOULD ROMANI CAUSE TROUBLE. SHORTLY AFTER THE CUBANS MADE THEIR FEELINGS KNOWN TO DISIP, GOMEZ SAID THAT ROMANI'S ACTIVITIES CEASED. (FIELD COMMENT: IN [HVC] 7495,

TDFIR DB-315/09683 -76, OF 28 SEPTEMBER, THE SAME SOURCE REPORTED THAT THE CUBAN EMBASSY HAD COMPLAINED TO DISIP ABOUT ANTI-CUBAN GOVERNMENT ARTICLES APPEARING IN THE LOCAL PRESS. IN THIS INSTANCE THE CUBANS INDICATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO RETALIATE AGAINST THE NEWSMAN INVOLVED IF DISIP DID NOT

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TAKE ACTION).

4. SOURCE OF PARAGRAPHS 5 AND 6: A FOREIGN DIPLOMAT WITH A WIDE VARIETY OF CONTACTS, HIS RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED.

5. DURING THE WEEK OF 4 OCTOBER LUIS MARTINEZ *Venezuelan*

~~MONCOL~~, CUBAN FIRST SECRETARY, SAID THAT THE EMBASSY WAS AWARE THAT CUBAN EXILE EXTREMIST ORLANDO BOSCH WAS IN VENEZUELA. THE EMBASSY, HE SAID, WAS ATTEMPTING TO INVESTIGATE BOSCH'S ACTIVITIES IN VENEZUELA AND TO DETERMINE WHETHER HE WAS STILL IN THE COUNTRY. MARTINEZ SAID THAT THE EMBASSY HAD RECEIVED UNCONFIRMED REPORTS THAT BOSCH HAD MOVED OUT OF THE CARACAS AREA AND WAS THEN IN THE VENEZUELAN INTERIOR.

(FIELD COMMENT: FOR AN EARLIER REPORT ON THE PRESENCE OF BOSCH IN VENEZUELA, SEE [HVC]^(S) 7498, TDFIRDB-315/09814-76, OF 30 SEPTEMBER, FROM A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE.)

6. IN ADDITION TO AND IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF BOSCH IN VENEZUELA, CUBAN EMBASSY OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE MACHINE-GUNNING OF THE CUBAN EMBASSY IN CARACAS BY UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS ON THE EARLY MORNING OF 8 OCTOBER.

7. FIELD DISSEM: EMBASSY, FBI AT CARACAS: SENT TO

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